

REMARKS

The Application presently comprises claims 1-23. By the present amendment, Applicant cancels claims 12 and 16-23. Claims 1, 2, and 4 were objected to by the Examiner. The Specification and Drawings were objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1-11 and 13-23 were rejected by the Examiner, and claim 12 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant addresses the Examiner's Office Action below.

Drawings:

The objections to the drawings have been obviated by Applicants' amendment to the specification, as discussed below.

Claim Objections:

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, and 4 in accordance with the Examiner's comments. Applicants respectfully request that the claim objections be withdrawn.

Specification:

The specification has been amended to correct reference to 220 with a reference to 200 as the view finder. Also, paragraph 21 has been amended to provide the antecedent basis for the "u-shaped bait holder having a retaining means for holding a pin." This amendment should obviate the Examiners objections to the drawings and to the Specification. Applicants respectfully request the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections:

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-11 and 13-23 are rejected. However, the Examiner indicated that claim 12 would be allowable if it did not depend upon a rejected base claim. Claim 12 has been canceled, and the limitations of claim 12 have been incorporated into claim 1, and into claims 2-11 through dependency. Therefore, claims 1-11 are now in condition for

allowance.

Regarding claims 13-15, which have been rewritten such that claims 13 and 14 are in independent form, the claims have been amended to emphasize that the system is automated to perform various functions. None of the prior art of record discloses, teaches, or suggests the automated release of bait when the system detects a fish of predetermined size, nor the automated adjustment to the bait depth. Basis for this is clearly state in paragraph 28, in which Applicants state

“In various embodiments the release of baited end portion of the fishing line 130 may be automated. In these embodiments the system would have a computing device, not shown, capable of processing information and commanding appropriate action. The computing device could be in the form of a computer chip, a prom, a computer, or other device that can perform similar functions. For example, if fish finder sensor 180 detects a fish of a predetermined size, the system could command the release of the baited end portion of the fishing line 130 in close proximity to the fish. Another example of release automation includes adjusting the depth to which fishing bait 350 descends to. This may be accomplished by adjusting the amount of fishing line between the fishing bait 350 and a bobber (not shown), selectively adding or removing weight to a sinker (not shown), or by any other know means for adjusting fishing bait 350 depth.”


Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter, and submit that the application should now be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant requests that the application be allowed. If the Examiner requires further information with respect to this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at (847) 537-3537 for a telephonic interview.

Respectfully submitted,

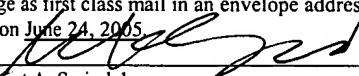
Date: June 24, 2005

By: 
Marc D. Machtinger, Reg. No. 43,434
Law Office of Marc D. Machtinger, Ltd.
Customer No. 30358

Attorney for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 24, 2005.


Margaret A. Swindal